

THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE.

JOHN E. WILLIAMS & ROBERT H. MILLER,

"Willing to Praise but not Afraid to Blame."

PROPRIETORS.

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THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

The Paris Mercury in speaking of the new Constitution says: Every man should reflect seriously before he casts his vote against the new Constitution, and weigh calmly and seriously, the consequences which may result from its rejection. If the new Constitution be not adopted, there can be but four more counties organized in the State, as there are now 96, and the old Constitution says that every county shall have at least one member to the Legislature, and that the whole number shall never exceed one hundred. So under the old Constitution we shall soon have one hundred counties, each having one member, and but one. Who will be willing to submit to a state of things so unequal, so degrading, and so anti-republican? The weakest county in the State one member, and St. Louis county but one! Who would vote for the adoption of such a Constitution? And strange as it may appear, all who vote against the new Constitution, in effect, vote for just such a Constitution! Therefore, reflect well before you cast your vote. Give us equal representation, and we can scuffle for the balance; but deprive us of equal representation, and we cease to be freemen. Suppose the new constitution be rejected, what probability have we that we shall ever obtain a better one. The Democrats made that, and as they have the majority, will they not have the making of another? No sane man can for one moment believe that the party in power will ever amend the old Constitution so as to equalize representation.

Benjamin Arvey, who is 111 years old, is to deliver a lecture in New York, on Monday night, upon "the olden time." He can speak experimentally.

The Report of the Bank Commissioners, just published, represents the Connecticut Banks generally as in a sound and prosperous condition. Their aggregate capital is \$8,475,630; circulation \$4,565,947; total liabilities \$16,892,685; specie \$481,567; loans and discounts \$13,253,587; total resources \$15,892,685.—N. Y. Ex.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPRESS.—The Mobile Register and Journal of the 22d, says that the news which reached that city on Monday, the 18th, of the actions of the 8th and 9th, was despatched by express to Montgomery. The carrier, a lad fourteen years of age, named Frederick Tyler, left Blakely at four o'clock in the afternoon, and reached Montgomery at five o'clock next morning, riding the distance of one hundred and eighty-six miles in thirteen hours, he having to saddle all the horses himself, as he was not expected at the stations. We believe this feat to be unprecedented in the history of horse expresses.

THE CROPS FOR 1845.—The report of the Commissioner of Patents makes the following estimate of the crops of last year: Wheat, 106,548,000 bushels; barley, 5,100,000 bushels; oats, 163,000,000 bushels; rye, 27,174,000 bushels; buckwheat, 10,262,000 bushels; corn, 417,809,000 bushels. Total grain, 730,258,600 bushels. Potatoes, 89,392,000 bushels; hay, 14,065,000 tons; hemp and flax, 37,500 tons; tobacco, 187,422,000 lbs.; cotton, 936,088,000 lbs.; rice, 89,765,000 lbs.; silk, 487,530 lbs.; sugar, 226,020,000 lbs.

New York stands first in the list of agricultural products; Ohio second—Pennsylvania third.

From the Louisville Journal.

THE OPPONENTS OF EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE IN CONGRESS.—During General Jackson's first Presidential term, a wealthy English gentleman named Smithson died and left to the United States in trust about half a million of dollars for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men. The United States accepted the trust and received the money. Mr. Woodbury, then Secretary of the Treasury, a gentleman who was in the habit of astonishing mankind with brilliant financial achievements, invested the money received from Smithson's estate in State stocks at par. There were some Illinois and Michigan stocks purchased, but most of the money was invested in Arkansas bonds. These States got the money, and they have kept it and are not manifesting any disposition to redeem their miserable stocks. The Government however is responsible for it, and, whether the States pay or not, the Government must make the amount good whenever the action of Congress shall require it.

For several years the subject has been before Congress, and many plans have been submitted for carrying into execution the benevolent designs of the testator. Much objection has been urged against every plan that has been proposed, and it is not likely that any bill will ever be framed to suit the notions of all the ignoramuses that the people see fit to send to the halls of the nation. A bill has recently passed the House of Representatives, the merits of which we do not intend to examine at the present time. It is doubted whether this bill will pass the Senate. Indeed there are good reasons to suppose that it will not receive the sanction of that body.

We think it high time that some sort of institution, the best that can be adopted, should be established. Almost half a generation has gone since the money was received and the Government solemnly pledged its faith to carry out the wishes of Mr. Smithson. Under all the circumstances of the case, one would naturally suppose that every man would be anxious that the country should speedily receive the advantages which will inevitably result to it from a wise administration of trust confided to it. The increase and diffusion of knowledge among men, the object of the testator, is an object of such great nobleness that one could hardly have presumed that stupidity and ignorance, however wonderful would dare to array themselves against it. And yet there are men in Congress, blockheads of incalculable thickness of skull and with thorough blindness of mind, who get up and offer serious opposition to the diffusion and increase of knowledge.

Chipman, a Michigan Locofoco, who seems anxious to be thought the most wonderful of all human asses, made a speech against founding any kind of institution with the Smithsonian money. This delectable fellow has only one idea, and that is that education is incompatible with pure and uncorrupt Democracy. Hence, as a good Democrat, he feels himself called on to denounce education on all occasions. In opposing the bill proposed by Mr. Owen, of Indiana, Chipman said that education was merely the heaping up of musty records of the thoughts and sayings and doings of gone-by ages—and the elevating of particular men above their fellows. It was a burning shame that a foreigner, and an Englishman, too, should send his gold here to corrupt free Americans with foreign and heathenish black-letter learning. The Government was forever disgraced by having accepted such a boon—and for such a purpose. He appealed to his Democratic friends in the House to rebuke and put down such an abominable scheme. Here the most dangerous, withering, and deadly aristocracy that could be established under Heaven was to be set up by Congress. The Government was to give its aid to a corporation for this purpose, with unlimited, monarchical powers that would subvert the constitution. No man would vote for this bill who was not as deficient in patriotism as Benedict Arnold.

The bill was also opposed by Mr. Sims, of South Carolina. He is an ass in some respects, but he belongs to a school that Chipman does not. He is a Nullifier, and sees but little in the constitution but the fostering of the cotton and negro interests. He declared that he could find no power in the constitution to accept trusts for literary purposes. Now, as the question of accepting the trust was decided ten years ago and the question now at issue respects the best means of discharging the duty imposed on the Government by accepting it, some pretty clear idea may be formed of the smartness of Mr. Sims in urging such an argument at such a time. There are two things which we suppose Mr. Sims will never find. He will never find any power in the United States Constitution to accept trusts for literary purposes, and he will never find, in his profoundest researches into his own constitution, the power to become one of the most wonderful additions ever made to the class of creatures called asses. Such a result would prove that he is not the ninny he is and thus involve an impossibility.

It is a very great pity, we think, that Mr. Andrew Johnson, of Tennessee, married a lady who persuaded him to throw away his wax and needles and turn his back on his cast-iron goose. As a manufacturer of coats, vests, and breeches, Mr. Johnson might have risen to respectability. Day after day, he might have sat as cross-legged as Juno on his pine table, threading needles and carrying his lapboard, occasionally feeling a thrill of conscious pride as he saw a customer pass by his window with his legs thrust into a pair of "Oh-no-I-never-mention-em's," unexceptionable in all the attributes of pleasant, comfortable, and well-fitting breeches. But, in an ill-started moment, he listened to the seductive voice of ambition, abandoned the shop, and sunk into a Locofoco politician. "What a tailor was in Johnson lost!" as Mr. Alexander Pope didn't sing. His wife taught him his A. B. C's, and Johnson forthwith passed through the chrysalis state of a mere speller and became a reader. He quickly began to make Locofoco speeches, and, as the Locos are generally guilty of the amiable weakness of loving and honoring ignoramus, he was elected to Congress.

But we are wandering from our purpose, which was not to write a biography of the Hon.

Andrew Johnson. That pleasing office we confide to Parson Brownlow, of the Jonesboro' Whig, who has devoted considerable attention to that engaging theme.

Mr. Johnson opposed Mr. Owen's bill respecting the use of the Smithsonian fund. We presume he thinks that every man ought to remain unable to distinguish the letter B from a bull's foot until he gets married. Now, wives are undoubtedly the sweetest and most fascinating of all intriguers, but as the majority of them are soon after the consummation of their matrimonial vows, made happy by having an opportunity of teaching "young ideas" how to shoot, it is impossible too much on them to require that they shall acquaint their husbands with the mysterious uses to which the letters of the alphabet are put. Johnson was in favor of sending the worthless State stocks that had been bought with Mr. Smithson's money to England, as the delightful Locofoco States of Michigan, Illinois, and Arkansas had repudiated and the gold was not procurable with them. What a beautiful conception of national honor such a man must have! After the Government has received half a million in gold and pledged itself to increase and diffuse knowledge among men with it, it is proposed to return, not the gold, but the dishonored bonds of Locofoco States! We advise Andrew henceforth to forewear legislation, to return to the companionship of his needle, lapboard and goose, and to endeavor to keep pace with the goddess of fashion in the construction of neat, well-trimmed, and well-fitting inexpressibles.

Other members opposed the bill on a variety of grounds, but as that admirable trio, Chipman, Sims and Johnson, surpassed all their competitors in their efforts to become notorious as the champions of ignorance, we will not notice what the small fry said. Whenever the Smithsonian institution commences operations, we hope that the first persons who may be permitted to drink at the crystal fountain of knowledge it will open will be certain Locofoco members of Congress. No other portion of the community appears to be sunk deeper in the barbarism of ignorance than they, and it will be nothing more than proper to undertake the difficult process of civilizing them by causing them to become practically acquainted with some of those blessings which they are so anxious to place beyond the reach of other persons. Chipman, Sims, and Johnson ought to be the first pupils received into the institution; and, if it can confer the benefits of a little knowledge on them, it will prove itself to be invaluable and cause all the fools in the country to lift up their drowsy heads in hope.

THE ROAD TO MEXICO.

A friend to one of the New Orleans editors furnished him lately from his route book with the distance from San Antonio, Texas, to the city of Mexico, including all the intermediate halting places. Just at this moment it possesses very considerable interest, for we continually have questions put to us as to the distance from point to point in Texas and Mexico. They are given from the journal of an actual traveler.

DISTANCE FROM SAN ANTONIO TO THE FOLLOWING PLACES.

| | MILES. |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Rio Grande, at the Presidio | 150 |
| San Juan de Nava | 22 |
| San Fernando | 15 |
| San Juan de Mata | 15 |
| Rosita | 23 |
| River Sabinas | 26 |
| Hacienda of Alamos | 20 |
| " Encienes | 20 |
| " Hermanes | 15 |
| " Ajuntos | 23 |
| Town of Monclava | 17 |
| Castano | 355 |
| Rancho of Bajon | 10 |
| Tank of San Felipe | 30 |
| Hacienda Anlo | 33 |
| " Messia | 20 |
| Village Capellanillo | 22 |
| Saltillo | 25 |
| Hacienda Agua Nueva | 10 |
| " Incarnacion | 15 |
| " San Salvador | 20 |
| " Salado | 23 |
| Rancho las Aencinas | 607 |
| Hacienda San Juan de Venegas | 25 |
| Village of Cedral | 10 |
| Town of Mataguala | 20 |
| Hac. Repressadara | 25 |
| " Laguna Seaca | 20 |
| Village of Benado | 20 |
| Hacienda Bocas | 30 |
| " Penasco | 33 |
| City San Luis Potosi | 10 |
| Hacienda Pila | 800 |
| Town of Jeral | 15 |
| Hacienda Cubo | 30 |
| Town of Dolores | 35 |
| " S. Miguel Grande | 30 |
| Hacienda Santa Rosa | 34 |
| City of Queretaro | 13 |
| Hacienda Colorado | 970 |
| Town of San Juan del Rio | 45 |
| Hac. Arroya Saco | 28 |
| Village of Tula | 30 |
| City of Mexico | 50 |

Wol in the United States.—The amount of wool to be clipped in the United States, in 1846, is estimated at 140,000,000 lbs. The home demand at 110,000,000 lbs., leaving a surplus of 30,000,000 lbs., for export. The average value of wool on half-blood merino, is about 25 cents per lb. or \$36,666,666 66 at the present ruling prices.

MY FATHER'S AT THE HELM.

BY PATTERSON.

The following lines are founded upon an anecdote related of a ship exposed to a dreadful storm, during which the passengers were all greatly alarmed, with the exception of the Captain's little son, who was observed not to manifest any concern. The storm having abated, the passengers asked him why he had felt no alarm. His answer was, "Because my father was at the helm."

A fearful gale swept o'er the sea,
And fierce the tempest raved;
And on the sea, a struggling bark,
That storm's wild fury braved.

Now tossed upon the billow's top,
Now deeply sunk between
The swelling waves—successively
That laboring ship was seen.

Each passenger within that ship
Was struck with fear and awe;
A child, the Captain's son looked on
The storm, without a dread, alone!

At length the waves were stilled—the winds
Were hush'd, the tempest o'er,
And perils passed, the ship went on
Her peaceful way once more.

And then, unto that little child,
The passengers drew near,
And asked him, "why, amidst the storm,
He only showed no fear."

"What should I fear?" he nobly cried,
"No storm could o'erwhelm,
This well I knew, while I beheld
My father at the helm!"

So ought each Heaven-bound traveler,
Life's tempest calmly view;
Trusting that He, who's "at the helm,"
Will guide us safely through?

What, though we feel the stormy winds,
So fearfully prevail;
And make our feeble vessel bend,
Beneath the furious gale.

Remember me, though dangers form
Does threaten to o'erwhelm,
We are supported by the thought,
"My father's at the helm!"

'Mid storms we feel as safe as when
Refreshing breezes swell
The sails; for FAITH, in either case,
Assures us, "all is well!"

Oh! may this happy thought sustain
My passage to the realm
Of peace and bliss; full well I know
"My father's at the helm!"

The Pope has created Dr. John McLaughlin, Commander of the Hudson Bay Com. beyond the Rocky Mountains, Chevalier of the Order of St. Gregory. His Holiness has conferred the honor in acknowledgment of the services rendered by the Doctor in the cause of religion since the arrival of the missionaries in Oregon.

The Rev. Asa T. Hopkins, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Buffalo, was to sail for England on the 1st of June, as a delegate to the Evangelical Alliance, which will assemble in London on the 19th of August next. The design of the proposed convention is to promote intercourse and mutual good will among Christians throughout the world; to exhibit the unity of the church, by giving prominence to fundamental articles in which the different Evangelical denominations agree; and to adopt united measures for the defence and diffusion of a common Christianity. It is expected that able minds from all parts of Christendom will participate in the deliberations of the Alliance.

Dennis Murphy, of Benton, W. T., was shot and dangerously wounded, on the 28th, by Mr. S. Crawford, of Mineral Point. The circumstances are related in the *Galena Jeffersonian* as follows:

Upon some difficulty which occurred between the parties last week, Mr. Murphy cowed Mr. Crawford. Yesterday, as Mr. M. was standing in the door of a store, Mr. Crawford rode along in a buggy and fired at him as he came opposite. The charge (buckshot) entered his thigh and the lower part of the abdomen. It is feared he will not recover. Mr. Murphy was one of the oldest citizens of Benton, and was, in fact the founder of the place. Mr. Crawford fled, and had not been apprehended at the date of our information.

The Toronto Patriot, commenting on the war between Mexico and the United States, says: "The last and most important consideration is, what will the European Powers do? One of the first measures which will be adopted will be a blockade. Will this be submitted to? England and France, more especially the former, have most important commercial arrangements with Mexico, and both countries have declared the necessity of preserving her power. Will they, therefore, because Brether Jonathan chooses to break into his neighbor's house and get kicked for his pains, suffer their commerce to be destroyed and their ally to be beaten to the ground? We hardly think so; though what the weathercocks in Downing street will do, it is hard to say."

DESIGNS OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

It is asserted in various quarters with the utmost confidence that the Administration has deliberately determined to invade Mexico, and that this undertaking—so full of peril and responsibility—has been confided to Gen. Scott, who will commence his march for the Mexican capital as soon as a sufficient force can be concentrated. The *Express* gives, on the authority of "gentlemen from Washington who ought to know and probably do know," the following plan of the campaign:

Mexico, it is said, is to be invaded at four points—with the eye upon the Capitol, where is intended the ultimate concentration.
To preserve our forces from the vomito, our columns are to march on the high regions of Central Mexico, which are said to be as healthy as New York or Pennsylvania.

The commander-in-Chief is to be in Major General Winfield Scott, who, report says is to lead one column, Gen. Wool another, and Gen. Taylor another. The fourth leader we have not heard named.

The great Western division of army from Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, &c. will proceed direct into the gold region of Santa Fe and New Mexico, sending a detachment to enter California by the short route discovered by Captain Fremont. This will be a column of hunters, trappers, wagoners, settlers, armed wandering tribes, that fight with the rifle in the one hand, and work with the plow in the other.

A column from the south west will rendezvous, it is said, at Fort Towson, on Red River, Louisiana, whence there is an ancient military road, in good order, across the high table lands of Upper Texas to the city of Chihuahua, in northern Mexico, there uniting with the roads from Santa Fe, California and the Pacific, which all join the great military road at Chihuahua, leading to the city of Mexico. Both these routes are most delightful for a summer campaign.

The main garrison will probably be established at the Presidencia del Norte, on the right bank of the Rio Grande, on the road from Fort Towson to Chihuahua, which seems to be the most central place for keeping up uninterrupted communication with all points. Chihuahua is exactly in the centre of Mexico; due west of Bexar, Texas; and due east of Guaymas, a port on the West Coast, in Lower California.

Meanwhile the Mexican forces are to be diverted as much as possible from assailing our columns by a continued bombardment of the castle of San Juan d'Ulla, and the occupation or blockade of every port of importance on the Gulf of Mexico, or on the Pacific.

Proclamations in Spanish are to be broadcast promising protection and liberty to the Mexican from their military rulers; security to their churches and their priests, and denouncing all who contemplate "a revel in the halls of the Montezumas," or the sacking of the churches, and the robbing of the gold mines.

COMMERCE.

In the extended sense of the term, commerce includes within its range the whole trade and intercourse of nations with each other, and explains how the mutual wants of mankind occasion the exchange of the productions of one country for those of another, its influence on the character of nations, and to what extent it has aided in the refinement of a people by the introduction of the arts of civilized life. The history of commerce in all its ramifications is important to every man who desires to become an intelligent and accomplished merchant.

In view of its great importance, the regulations of commerce constitute prominent articles in all treaties between nations, whether professedly commercial or otherwise, and they are also among the principal subjects of legislation in all civilized states and kingdoms. Commerce is one of the great sources of public revenue, and one of the chief causes of the wealth of nations and individuals. The merchants of ancient Tyre and Sidon, two famous cities of Phoenicia, from their wealth acquired in the pursuits of commerce, were called "merchant princes," and the Florentine family of Medici, acquired as high distinction for their mercantile enterprise as their political eminence, and while exercising the highest offices of the republic, they did not think it beneath them to attend to the affairs of the counting room. There is no condition of life more honorable than that of the intelligent, honest, industrious, and enterprising merchant; no occupation in which a man can make himself more useful.

Commerce is so intimately connected with agriculture, manufactures, and the mechanic arts, that they may be said to move hand in hand. Without proper attention to the pursuits of agriculture, commerce would be extremely limited in its operations; and without commerce, agriculture would lose its chief support. Without commerce, manufactures would languish; with it, they find their way into every corner of the known world. Freighted with the productions of our prolific soil, and of our manufactures, the sails of American vessels whiten every sea, and are spread to every breeze.

FEMALE TEACHERS.

"He, it seems to me, is a dull observer, who is not convinced that they are equally qualified with the other sex, for the study of the magnificent creation around us, and equally entitled to the happiness to be derived from its pursuit; and still more blind is he, who has not learned that it was the intention of the Creator to 'commit to them' a higher and greater portion of responsibility in the education of youth of both sexes. They are the natural guardians of the young. Their abstraction from the engrossing cares of life affords them leisure both to acquire and communicate knowledge. From them the young more willingly receive it, because the severity of discipline is relieved with greater tenderness and affection while their more quick apprehension, enduring patience, expansive benevolence, higher purity, more delicate taste, and elevated moral feelings qualify them for excellence in all departments of learning, except perhaps the exact sciences." If this be true, how many a repulsive, bigoted, and indolent professor will, in the general improvement of education, be compelled to resign his claim, to modest, assiduous, and affectionate women."